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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mueller et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No: 09/804,975

Art Unit: Unknown

For: STENT

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 37 CFR 1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed with the completion of filing requirements, which is prior to an action on the merits, so it is timely filed without payment of a fee. 37 CFR §1.97(b).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25.

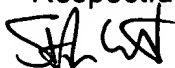
This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(c).

Three (3) U.S. patent and four (4) foreign patent documents are listed on the attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of each is enclosed. One (1) non-patent document is listed on one sheet of Form PTO/SB/08B, which is also made a part hereof. Also enclosed, but not listed on the

form, is a copy of a search report from the German Patent Office on German application 100 12 460.7, on which this US application claims priority.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information known to the inventor or contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to each of the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen L. Grant
Reg. No. 33,390

Oldham & Oldham Co., LPA
1225 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313
330/864-5550
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